

Since December 1, 2011, the City of Gulfport has had a national Preferred Provider Network, which is the First Health network. First Choice will remain your primary PPO network in Mississippi, but the areas outside of Mississippi will now be covered by First Health.

Here are some key features of the First Health Network:

- Approximately 5,000 Hospitals participate nationwide.
- Approximately 550,000 doctors and health care professionals participate nationwide.
- 98% of the U.S. population has access to a provider in the First Health Network.
- First health offers a user friendly hospital and provider look up at [www.firsthealth.com](http://www.firsthealth.com)

Here are some hospitals of interest that participate in First Health:

- Ochsner Foundation Hospital – New Orleans
- Ochsner Medical Center – Northshore - Slidell
- USA Children’s and Women’s Hospital - Mobile
- UAB Hospital - Birmingham
- MD Anderson Cancer Center – Houston
- Mayo Clinic – Rochester
- Johns Hopkins Hospital - Baltimore

Here are some answers to some potential questions you may have:

**Is there anything I need to do to participate with First Health?** No. There is nothing you need to do in order to participate. Your ID cards have both the First Choice Health Plan of Mississippi and the First Health logo on it. This will provide you access to all First health providers.

**Will this have any effect on my current network of hospitals and physicians?** No. You will still have access to First Choice and all of their hospitals and physicians. We are simply wrapping a national network around your existing network.

**How will First Health claims be processed?** First Health claims will be processed in the same manner First Choice claims are processed, thus they will all be sent directly to your Third Party Administrator.